(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Fall in the prices of petrochemical raw materials

740. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whetehr it is a fact that international prices of petro-chemical raw materials for synthetic industry have fallen considerably;

(b) what has been the quantums of fall in prices in respect of paraxylene, Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG), DMT and PTA during the last one year;

(c) what are the present ruling prices of items referred above in part (b) in the international market; and

(d) whether with a view to safeguard the indigenous industry, Government have revolved to increase import duty on these materials with a view to compare favourably with the fair selling prices of the domestic produce?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Prices of petrochemical raw material for synthetic fibre often fluctuate in international market.

(b) Comparison of international prices of MEG, paraxylene, DMT and PTA is as follows (as published).

(US$/T)

	Jan '89	Jan '90
Paraxylene	900=950	500=510
DMT	850=900	600=650
PTA	685=715	680=715
MEG	1400=1500	485=507

(c) Present + ruling prices as published of items referred above are as indicated below:

	(US$/T)
Paraxylene	420=460
MEG	440=500
DMT	600=635
PTA	674=710

(d) Interest of indigenous industry is safeguarded with the help of import policy and approriate tariff mechanism.

Mysterious disease in an Orissa village

741. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that male members of Pabla village in Dhenkenal district of Orissa are dying every day due to a mysterious disease; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b). Information is being collected from the Government of Orissa and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Cost and fair price of DMT produced by Bombay dyeing

742. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost and fair price study of DMT produced by Bombay Dyeing have been carried out by the BICP or by the Cost Accounts Branch as has been done in the case of DMT manufactured by the IPCL and PTA manufactured by RIL; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?